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The first part of the book contains a general treatise on the subject, while the second part, which comprises three-fourths of the whole volume, contains the statutes annotated of each State. The history of each State statute is traced from its original form down to the law as it stands after the legislation of 1911, together with the judicial decisions thereon. This part is most valuable, for one discovers here at hand without the trouble and expense of an extended search all the law of a particular State on the subject. The book is printed in an attractive form with varied type; but it may be questioned whether the plan of placing the notes after each section instead of at the foot of the page is not confusing; and one may search in vain for a table of the cases cited. An excellent index adds materially to the value of the book. We may safely predict that its usefulness as a saver of time and labor in a realm which is becoming of more importance every year will make this volume an important addition to the lawyer's library.

C. E. C.

*A Short History of English Law from the Earliest Times to the End of the Year 1911.* By Edward Jenks, M.A., B.C.L. Little, Brown and Company. Boston. 8 vo., pp. 390.

Mental recognition has been accorded to the lasting effects of Pollock and Maitland in their interpretation of the history of English law. Others before them have entered the same field with varying degrees of success and there is consequently no scarcity of works which aim to exhaust the material of English legal history on a basis of philosophical research.

The complex details of English law are quite enough to prove serious obstacles to those writers who may proceed without limitation. But the difficulties of the task are quite obviously heightened when it is necessary to place the story of legal progress within a restricted compass. This has been done with unquestioned success by Professor Jenks.

The book possesses the rather uncommon quality of being concise and readable, without slighting the paramount necessity for scientific accuracy in explaining the technicalities of the law's development. The student will find particular assistance in the section dealing with the intention and ultimate effect of the

Statute of Uses, and a clearness of expression generally on intricate points that prove baffling to the beginner.

Four periods are chosen for the purposes of arrangement, the Conquest, the reign of Edward I, and the Restoration of Charles II, the final period being devoted to modern development and reform.

P. R. B.

*A Comparative Study of the Law of Corporations.* By Arthur K. Kulin, Ph.D., LL.B., Columbia University. Longmans, Green and Company, Agents. pp. 173.

The historical development surrounding the theory of corporate existence is certainly a field from which stimulating analogies may be found for modern application. The vital importance of the corporate element in the complexities of modern life makes a comparative study of its development and adoption of particular interest and value.

This book is intended as a contribution to the work of legislative research now being conducted under the direction of Columbia University. In the opening chapter the author plans the concept of the corporation with the inclination of ancient peoples to idealize into personality groups of persons, or groups of legal rights and obligations. The author takes early issue with the statement contained in a leading work on corporations that "the Roman corporation was much the same as the corporation of modern times". He asserts that the entity idea was not consciously evolved to create new subjects of private ownership, but was, in reality, simply developed as one of the instrumentalities of government.

An important part of the book is devoted to a treatment of the forms of protection afforded to creditors and shareholders in Continental Europe, and also to corporate legislation and reform in England and the United States. On the latter subject the author finds much to commend in the English Companies Act. He declares the English statute particularly efficient and agreeable to modern business tendencies in dealing with the problem of dissolution, giving, as it does, to the creditors and particular stockholders liable for contribution a tangible control over the progress